

## CLAIMS

We claim:

1           1. A rubber cylinder sleeve for an offset printing press, the rubber  
2         cylinder sleeve having a circumferential direction, an axial direction, and a width in the  
3         axial direction, the width having an axial center, the sleeve comprising:  
4                 an inner carrier sleeve which can be expanded outwardly using air; and  
5                 a rubber covering on the inner carrier sleeve, the rubber covering comprising a  
6         layer having compressible layer elements and a layer having elastic layer elements, the  
7         elastic layer elements being uniform in the circumferential direction and prestrained to  
8         varying degrees in the axial direction so that the sleeve has a tangential elasticity profile  
9         which is symmetric with respect to the axial center of the sleeve.

1           2. A rubber cylinder sleeve as in claim 1 wherein the tangential  
2         elasticity profile affects the speed profile of a conveyed paper web in a range of -0.5%  
3         to +0.5% across the width of the web.